represent for which they have been nominated as Vice-Chairman of the District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee of the Ministry of Rural Development. The consultation process is operationalised at the State and District Panchayat levels and details are not available at the Central level.

Survey for identifying BPL families

2460. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any State-wise survey to identify facilities available to Below Poverty Line families in the country;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) the details of essential facilities being provided by Government to BPL families in different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Rural Development have not conducted any State-wise survey to identify facilities available to Below Poverty Line families in the country. However, the Ministry provides assistance to the States/UTs to conduct a BPL Census to identify the BPL families in the rural areas who could be provided assistance under different programmes of the Ministry. The Ministry is implementing two major poverty alleviation programmes namely, Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) to provide wage-employment, Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) to provide self-employment through bank credit and subsidy. The Government has also recently launched a National Food For Work Programme (NFFWP) in 150 most backward districts in the country with the objective to provide additional employment opportunities to the rural poor. Under Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) the rural poor are provided assistance to built houses. In addition, the Ministry is also implementing Rural Drinking Water Supply and Rural Sanitation Schemes to improve the quality of life of the rural poor. Under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) roads are constructed to improve the rural connectivity.

Patent of Banarasi Sarees

†2461. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government have decided to patent the Banarasi sarees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the scheme made by the Government for the Upliftment of this trade?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, Mumbai has reported that no application has been received by them in respect of Banarasi sarees for registration as a Geographical Indication.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government of India has been implementing following developmental schemes and programmes for upliftment of handloom products, including Banarasi Sarees:—

1. Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana

2. Handloom Export Scheme

3. Integrated Handloom Training Programme

4. Market Promotion Programme

5. Mill Gate Price Scheme

6. Setting up Marketing Complex

7. Scheme for reimbursement of one time rebate @ 10% given by the handloom agencies on sale of handloom cloth during 2002-03 to 2004-05.

Funds spent on development of handicrafts

†2462. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise total amount spent on the development of handicrafts in the country during last three years;

(b) the steps taken by Government for the development of handicrafts in rural areas in the country; and

(c) the details of incentives provided by the Government in handicraft sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) and (b) The Government is implementing various schemes for development and promotion of handicrafts which include: Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.